

T H E
Shrewsbury Jubilee.
O R, A

Collection of the most material

P I E C E S

In PROSE and VERSE,

Relative to the late and present

E L E C T I O N.

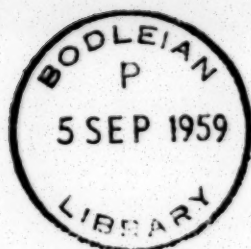
Interspersed with several Originals.

*Nothing Extenuate,
Nor set down aught in Malice.*

SHAKESPEARE.

SHREWSBURY, PRINTED.

Sold by J. WILLIAMS, Auctioneer;
and T. WOOD, Bookfeller.



P R E F A C E.

***T**HE compiler of this collection flatters himself that the following sheets will abundantly demonstrate to every impartial reader, that he has paid the most sacred regard to the import of his motto.*

If it should be objected “ that in the course of this work more is ad-

A 2 vanced

vanced on one side of the question than on the other," he can only answer that, with equal freedom, he has made use of all the materials that came under his observation, except some few pieces which are too long, and others, that he judged too futile for publication.

The method pursued in arranging the papers, is as follows, viz.

1. The cards that were circulated previous to the day of election.

2. A short state of the poll.

3. The

3. *The speeches of the two members, immediately on their return, with Mr. P-----y's speech, and letter of thanks to his friends.*

4. *A brief account, relative to the determination of the great Mandamus Cause.*

5. *Short account of L--d C---e's death.*

6. *All the papers that have transpired, during the present canvass for the vacant seat.*

7. *A variety of miscellaneous pieces*
in

*in prose and verse, mostly originals,
founded in general upon some cir-
cumstances in the foregoing matter,
with references to each particular
page.*

T H E

T H E

Shrewsbury Jubilee.

Cards circulated prior to the Election.

MR. P-----y desires his most respectful Compliments to his *Worthy Friends*, the *Gentlemen*, the *Burgesses*, and *Freemen*, in and near the Town of Shrewsbury. It is with great concern, that business of the utmost consequence prevents him the pleasure of waiting on them, at a time that others have been canvassing the town, against the ensuing Election. Mr. P-----y assures his friends, that his firm Intentions are to stand a Poll at the next Election for Member for Shrewsbury, unless they should think some other Gentleman more worthy of their patronage; and he will most assuredly take the earliest opportunity of paying his respects to his Friends in person, which he hopes will be in a few days.

Shrewsbury, April 20, 1774.

B

Mr.

MR. G----e C----e presents his warmest acknowledgments and thanks to the Inhabitants of Shrewsbury, for their kind reception so generally given to his application in favor of L--d C---e; and begs leave to assure them of his Lordship's continued attention to the honor and interest of the Town; and that he will endeavor to merit a return of that regard and affection which he has always born, and will ever bear, to his Townsmen and Countrymen.

Saturday, April 30, 1774.

L---D C---e begs leave, in this most public manner to express his grateful acknowledgments, for the very favorable reception he has met with on his canvass; and hopes to merit the continuance of that friendship and support, which will obtain him the honor of being again elected, one of the Representatives of the Town of Shrewsbury.

Wednesday, July 20, 1774.

Mr.

MR. P-----y having finished his canvass, begs leave to express his warmest acknowledgments, to the *Burgesses* and *Freemen* of Shrewsbury, for the very favorable reception he has met with. He is extremely flattered by the general good will and approbation, which have been every where express'd even by those who from particular circumstances have found themselves obliged to promise against him, as well as by those who have resolved to keep themselves for the present unengaged; but above all, he thinks himself called upon, to testify in this public manner, the lively sense which he shall ever entertain, of the honorable and upright conduct of the *Freemen* in general, however strongly solicited to act a different part. He has only to request the continuance of that favorable opinion, which has already secured to him so great a number of voices, and which it shall be the endeavour of his life, never to forfeit.

Castle of Shrewsbury. *Aug.* 4, 1774.

To the *Mayor, Aldermen, Burgesses, and
Freemen*, of the Town of Shrewsbury.

Loton, *August* 24, 1774.

GENTLEMEN,

MR. N---l H---ll, having this day
been unanimously approved of
as a proper person, to represent the
county in the ensuing parliament, I
beg leave to renew my application to
you to succeed him in the Borough,
and to return you my sincerest thanks,
for the very great encouragement
which I have met with on my canvass.
Should I be so happy as to have the
honor of being elected your represen-
tative, be assured that I shall ever retain
a grateful sense of so signal an obliga-
tion, and that I shall always serve you
with integrity and independence.

I have the honor to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient humble Servant,

C-----n L-----n.

To

To the worthy *Burgesſes* and *Freemen*,
of the Town of Shrewſbury.

Shrewſbury, *October* 10, 1774.

THE election for members to represent this town comes on to-morrow, and probably is a matter of as much conſequence as ever can happen to us. Two of the candidates are men of experience, character, and acknowledged abilities, in the ſenate. Permit me alſo to ſay, that Mr. P-----y deſerves the eſteem and ſuffrage of the town's people, both in their capacity of Burgeſſes and Freemen. It is a fact, that it is owing to him, that one half of the Burgeſſes of this Town, are now in poſſeſſion of their birth right, as a deſign was formed two years ago to take away the right of Burgeſthip from all thoſe whoſe fathers had neglected to take the Burgeſs oath, and which would have taken effect, if he had not ſtrenuouſly interpoſed therein. With regard to the Freemen, I need not remind you of the money he has ſpent and the pains he has taken to eſtabliſh
their

their right. But this let me tell you, that unless you return him one of your members now, you must never expect to be so much as applied to for your votes again. You will not then be troubled with applications and promises scarce possible to be performed; you will then indeed be so insignificant, that no ministerial tool, need apply for a command to a worthy Burgess to vote contrary to his opinion and inclination, or lose in his old age the reward of a long and faithful service of his country. Consider these things, do yourselves and your children justice, shew your gratitude to Mr. P---y, and your just resentment to that man who has dar'd to disturb the peace of the town, and to influence a free election, by unconstitutional threatenings: act the part of honest, sensible men; keep your promises, and regard your own honor, and the interest of your country.

A Freeman.

The

The following state of the poll, &c.
appeared in the *Shrewsbury Chronicle*.

Shrewsbury, October 15, 1774.

YESTERDAY afternoon, the very warm contested election for this Borough ended; when the state of the poll stood as follows:

For *Ld Clive. Mr. Leighton. Mr. Pulteney.*

Burgeffes	211	179	171
D ^o Rejected	1	1	
	210	178	171
Freemen	99	60	170
	309	238	341
Burg. obj. to	18	9	28
	327	247	369
Total			

When the returning officer had declared *L---d C---e* and *Mr. L-----n* duly elected, his Lordship came forward, and spoke to the following purport:

“ Gentlemen,

“ I thank you for the honor you have conferred on me, in electing me again your representative in parliament; and more particularly so, as it is the
third

third time you have done me this honor. Next to the interest of the nation in general, I shall always be solicitous for the welfare and prosperity of this ancient and very respectable Borough; and shall esteem myself happy in serving, and being any way useful to my electors."

Mr. L----n next arose, and thanked his constituents for the great honor they had conferred on him in chusing him one of their representatives in parliament.

Mr. P----y then addressed the Hall nearly as follows:

" Gentlemen,

" I thank you for the great number of votes which you have given me; and altho' the returning officer has thought proper to reject a number of Burgeffes which I think are legal voters, I make no doubt, that when this matter comes to be litigated in another place, it will be made appear so, and that the victory obtained by Mr. L----n will be very short,

short. And when the rights of the Freemen are established by trial at bar, (which will be on the 19th of Nov.) I shall be found to have a great majority. I am therefore resolved, on both these grounds, to present a petition to the House of Commons as soon as the Parliament meets."

Shrewsbury, Oct. 14, 1774.
To the *Burgeses, Freemen, and Inhabitants*
of Shrewsbury.

Gentlemen,

I Take the first opportunity of publicly testifying the pleasure and satisfaction I feel, in being again elected, in a free and generous manner, your representative in parliament. I esteem it highly honorable to have been so often the object of your voluntary choice. Believe me, that, in discharging this important trust, I shall, on all occasions, consult the honor and interest of the town of Shrewsbury, and make it the rule of my public conduct, to act as becomes the representative of

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a very respectable Borough, distinguished for its freedom and independency.

I am, Gentlemen,
By every tie of gratitude and affection,
Your most obliged,
And obedient Servant, C---e.

Loton, Oct. 14, 1774.
To the *Mayor, Aldermen, Burgeſſes, and*
Freemen, of the Borough of Shrewsbury.
Gentlemen,

THE great honor which I have this day received, in being chosen one of your representatives in parliament, merits my earliest and most unfeigned thanks. I shall always retain a grateful sense of my obligations to you, for this singular instance of your affectionate regard; and it shall be my constant study to deserve the esteem which you have been pleased to express for me, by an unwearied attention to the good of my country, and to the interest of my constituents.

I remain, Gentlemen,
Your most obliged, and
Obedient Servant, C---n L-----n.
To

To the *Burgesſes, Freemen, and Inhabitants*
of Shrewſbury.

Gentlemen,

THE gratitude I feel for the generous and diſintereſted ſupport, you have given me in the late election, can never be effaced from my mind. Uninfluenced by threats, uncorrupted by promiſes, by money, or by rewards, you have honored me with a majority of legal votes, as *Burgesſes*, and a ſtill greater majority of voices as *Freemen*. Neither the interpoſition of the heavy hand of government againſt me, nor the lawleſs exertions of the ſupporters of another candidate, have ſhaken your conſtancy; all their efforts have only ſerved to ſhow that you are firm, independant, and uncorruptible. The few who have diſgraced themſelves and their families, by forfeiting from baſe motives, their ſolemn engagements to me, are in truth the objects of compaſſion; ſince the general contempt into which they have fallen, muſt render unhappy the remainder of their days, whiſt thoſe who have nobly with-

stood every art to corrupt, and every menace to intimidate, will enjoy a satisfaction which cannot be purchased, and will for ever read in the faces of their fellow citizens, the most honorable and pleasing testimony of their own worth.

To the *Burgesses* I am bound to express my first thanks, as the arts of intimidation and corruption, though every where employed, have been principally directed against them, and yet I obtained an undoubted legal majority of *Burgesses*, and the number of *Burgesses* who polled for me alone, appears by the books to have been very great.

To the *Freemen* I am called upon, to express in a particular manner, my warmest gratitude, and to mention to their honor, that notwithstanding every art and every influence, I have obtained 170 voices, out of 205, the total number that polled, and of these a very great proportion voted for me alone, and many more would have done so, if I had desired it,

To

To the *Inhabitants* in general, I cannot sufficiently express, the pleasure I have received from those warm expressions of approbation with which they have honored me. Those loud and continued acclamations, with which I have been so often attended, would have given me little pleasure, if they had been purchased by the arts of corruption, extorted by the influence of power, or excited by factious or illiberal arts. But as they have proceeded from the generous, voluntary, and unsolicited approbation, of a free, uncorrupted, and well informed people, and as I am conscious that I have endeavoured to deserve the approbation of mankind, by integrity in private life, and the most disinterested attention to the public interest, in my parliamentary character, I acknowledge that I have received those testimonies of your approbation with uncommon satisfaction and gratitude.

The unconstitutional attempt made by some of his Majesty's Ministers, to disappoint my election, must satisfy you,
that

that I am not looked upon as one of those, who will be ready in parliament to sacrifice the public interest, from any mean motive, or any particular interest of my own; and I hope, that the extraordinary letter from a public office, to a voter here, which most people have seen, will teach you what to think of those ministers who have dared to prostitute his majesty's sacred name, by affirming it to be for his interest, that the people should chuse such representatives, as are recommended to them from the ministerial boards. Such doctrines are subversive of every idea of parliamentary representation, and I am sure will ever be treated by you with abhorrence. Nor am I less confident that such new and dangerous doctrines, are highly disapproved by a prince, whose public character has been equally distinguished for an ardent love of our free and happy constitution, as his private life has been justly celebrated, for every virtue which can belong to a man.

The

The returning officer, it is true, assisted by a counsel taken from amongst my opponents, and adopting new and unheard of grounds, has stated a small majority of seven votes against me upon the face of the poll; to accomplish which, he was obliged not only to reject a great number of those Burgeesses who voted for me, and to admit others in the same circumstances, against me; but was also obliged to reject the whole votes of the Freemen, notwithstanding a verdict obtained some years ago in their favor, which was afterwards solemnly confirmed by all the Judges in the Court of King's-Bench, when they unanimously refused a motion for a new trial. I will venture however to assure you, that when the merits of this election shall come before that excellent institution, a Jury of the House of Commons, judging upon oath, impartial justice will be done both to you and to me, the infallible consequence of which must be, that the present return must be amended, and my election confirmed, for which purpose I am resolved

solved to present a petition, whenever the Parliament shall meet.

In the mean time, the rights of the Freemen, will, I am confident, be finally established, by the Trial at Bar, upon a new Mandamus, which stands fixed for the 19th of next November; in consequence of which, without discussing the legality of the votes of the rejected or admitted Burgeesses, I shall stand first upon the poll, and shall have a majority of more than one hundred votes above my opponent.

That my opponents entertain no doubt of the rights of the Freemen, appears very plain; not only by their frequent declarations of their opinion to individuals in the course of the canvass, but by the unwearied pains, the illegal threats, and the unconstitutional arts which they used in vain, to corrupt the integrity of my grateful and honorable friends, and also by their bringing up a few Freemen who had deserted me, to the poll, after instructing them in the proper mode of demanding their admission, and tendering their

their money. And you all know that many of those members of the Corporation, who have been most strenuous in opposing our Mandamus, and who best know the merits of that question, have diligently and publicly joined with my opponents, in canvassing the Freemens votes.

What reason have we therefore to regard any change in their language upon this subject, or their forced insinuations, as if superior powers, could in this case stop or pervert the course of justice.

His Majesty's Ministers cannot influence the determination of this question; in vain will they pretend that it is for his Majesty's interest, that the rights of the Freemen should be overturned upon the tryal at bar, least otherwise a Candidate whom they oppose, should obtain a Seat in Parliament, for we may safely rest assured, that such corrupt and despicable ideas, will have no influence either with the Judges or Jury upon that occasion. The Judges of the Court of King's
D Bench,

Bench, will not, in our time, become the tools of a Minister; nor is it possible to suppose, that the Chief Justice of that Court, so distinguished for his abilities, who has twice declared publicly his conviction in favour of the rights of the Freemen, (now strengthened by several late discoveries) will injure his character upon this occasion, by turning round at last in order to serve a base Ministerial purpose, and it is equally impossible, that the other able and respectable Judges upon the same Bench, would concur in such a prostitution. At all events, the cause of the Freemen is not in the hands of Judges, named by the King's Ministers, it must be determined a second time by a special Jury of English Men, jealous of their liberties, and judging upon Oath.

I have only to add, that if Justice shall in this case prevail, against Ministerial influence and private arts, I shall continue to act in Parliament with the same disinterested attention, to the honour of his Majesty and the interest

terest of the state, as I have hitherto done, and I hope that as my former conduct has met with your approbation; I shall equally deserve it, by a steady adherence to the same principles. I am with the greatest respect and warmest gratitude,

Gentlemen,

Your most Obedient and
Most humble Servant,

W----m P----y.

The following Paragraphs, are taken from the *Shrewsbury Chronicle*.

Shrewsbury, Nov. 26, 1774.

ON Saturday last came on in the Court of King's Bench, Westminster; before a special Jury; the remarkable trial at bar upon a writ of Mandamus, for settling finally the long contested question concerning the rights of the Freemen of this Town against the Corporation. After a long discussion which lasted eleven hours, of the written and parole evidence on both sides, a verdict was given in favor

of the Freemen. The determination of this great and important question, hath afforded more real joy to the Freemen and a great number of the Inhabitants of the Town, than any public or private event that hath happened within memory. As soon as the news arrived here on Sunday night, the bells in several of the churches were immediately set to ring. On Monday several sheep were roasted, and in the evening the Town was grandly illuminated. On Tuesday a large ox, given by Mrs. L---r, was roasted in the Street, opposite the Raven-Inn, and the day spent in feasting and other demonstrations of joy.

On Tuesday last, between the hours of one and two at noon, departed this life, in the 49th year of his age, after five days illness, at his house in Berkeley-Square, the Right Honorable R---t L---d C---e, Baron of Plassey. in the Kingdom of Ireland, Knight of the Honorable Order of the Bath, Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum

rum of the Counties of Salop and Montgomery; Major General in the East-Indies, LL. D. and F. R. S. His Lordship had been twice Governor of Bengal, and Commander in Chief of the King's and Company's Forces in that province, where his eminent services to this country, and to the East-India Company are well known. His Lordship was lately returned a Member for this Town, and which is the third time he had that honor conferred on him. In public and in private life, this Town has met with a considerable loss. His Lordship is succeeded in Title and Estate by his Son *E---d C---e*, Esq. now *L---d C---e*; and who is returned a Member to represent the Borough of Ludlow, in the ensuing Parliament.

High-street, Nov. 26, 1774.
To the *Mayor, Aldermen, Burgeesses*, and
Freemen-Burgeesses, of the Town of
Shrewsbury.

Gentlemen,

THE universal concern with which
the mind of every person in this
Town,

Town, seems to be impressed with on the truly melancholy news, of the death of our late worthy Member, The Right Honorable *L---d C---*, I trust will not be heightened by a voluntary contest on this occasion, especially as we have so lately been engaged on electioneering business, and the consequential rejoicings on the event of the Mandamus Cause.

To consider the peace and prosperity of the Town ought to be our first wish, we have therefore now an opportunity of joining together in the choice of a Gentleman proper to represent us on this vacancy, and most likely such a Candidate may be proposed, as will unite all parties, and thereby form such a conjunction as will be the most effectual means of continuing the honor and independency of this respectable Borough, and restore to us the electors and inhabitants our usual tranquility and esteem; for which purpose I doubt not but a public meeting will be convened, when the general sense of the inhabitants of the Town will be taken;

taken; and I humbly recommend 'till that opportunity offers, we do not engage our votes and interest as some of us have recently experienced the disagreeable fatality of making hasty promises.

I heartily condole with you on the loss of our Representative, in whom it may with truth be said, the nation has been deprived of a valuable senator, this town of a liberal benefactor whenever the public calls required, and the poor a most sincere friend.

Before I conclude permit me to implore your pardon for the freedom taken; and allow me to subscribe myself,

A well-wisher to Shrewsbury.

Shrewsbury, Nov. 26, 1774.

To the worthy *Burgesses*, and *Freemen-Burgesses* of the Town of Shrewsbury.

THE death of L--D C--E having occasioned a vacancy in this Borough; permit me to make a tender of my services to represent you in the ensuing Parliament, and to solicit your support

support on the Day of Election, which
will confer the greatest obligation on
Gentlemen,

Your most faithful
and obedient Servant,
J---n C---t.

Shrewsbury, Nov. 27, 1774.
To the Gentlemen, Burgesses, Freemen-
Burgesses, and Inhabitants of the
Town of Shrewsbury.

Gentlemen,

YOUR late worthy Representative
L---d C---e's decease, having oc-
casioned a vacancy in this truly re-
spectable Borough, and as there was
not time for a general meeting till
to-morrow at Twelve o'Clock, at the
Town-Hall, and Mr. C---t having this
morning privately canvassed the Town,
and intending to do it publicly to-
morrow; it will be esteemed a parti-
cular favor if you will not engage your
votes and interests, 'till after the sense
of that meeting is known, by

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,
R---d M---l.

November 28, 1774.

To the *Gentlemen, Burgeſſes, and Free-
men-Burgeſſes*, of Shrewſbury.

AT a general meeting of you and the inhabitants held this Day, I had the honor of being propoſed as a Candidate to repreſent you on the vacancy occaſioned by the death of the late *L---d C---e*. This is too great a teſtimony of your regard for me to reject, but on this principle; conciliating meaſures are what I publickly declared my wiſh to adopt, and have in conformity thereto, (with other Gentlemen) wrote to Mr. *P-----y* to deſire he will come and offer himſelf. Theſe are the grounds on which I tender my ſervices to you. If I can be, by any means, the reſtorer of the publick tranquility, it will to me be an Inexpreſſible Pleaſure, if Mr. *P-----y* (contrary to my wiſhes) ſhould not accept of the propoſals ſent him, I hope you will think my conduct reſpecting the Town of Shrewſbury ſuch as will intitle me to your eſteem and ſuffrages;
E and

and to merit a continuance of it, shall
ever be the unwearied attention of,

Gentlemen,
Your much obliged, and
faithful Servant,
R---d M---ll.

November 29, 1774.

To the *Gentlemen, Burgeſſes, and Inhabitants* of the Town of Shrewsbury.

THE Peace of the Town, is ſuch
a common place expreſſion, and
has been ſo much hackney'd of late,
that I never hear the words without
diſguſt.

I was preſent yeſterday at the meet-
ing, which was call'd to preſerve the
peace of the Town; and I there heard
a Gentleman, who now offers himſelf
as a Candidate, expreſs himſelf ex-
tremely ſolicitous to preſerve this ſame
peace, and for that purpoſe, wiſhing
that Mr. P----y may be invited by the
Town in general, to come down, and
offer himſelf to repreſent us; and the
Town would unanimouſly elect him.

The

The propofal was plaufible, but I think, it is plain, there was not much fincerity in it: and that it was intended to ferve the ends of a particular friend, rather than to heal wounds, and conciliate the Public Peace: this is fairly deducible, not only from appearances, but from facts.

At our late contefted election, Mr. M---ll voted for L---d C---e, and Mr. L---n againft Mr. P---y: what has Mr. P---y done fince the election, to recommend himfelf either to Mr. M---ll or to Mr. L---n? that Mr. M---ll and all Mr. L---n's friends fhould now be fo fanguine on Mr. P---y's behalf. Mr. M---ll has faid, that he will decline to Mr. P---y, but to no other perfon whatfoever.

Upon the firft news of L---d C---e's death, the eyes of the Town were turned upon Mr. M---n. If Mr. M---n would have offered, no effectual oppofition could have been made to his election, which in courfe would have preferved the Peace of the Town, as effectually, as the election of Mr.

P-----y without opposition.—But if this had been the case, *Mr. P-----y* must have pursued his petition, and disappointed *Mr. L-----n* of the seat he hoped to possess in St. Stephen's Chapel. On the contrary *Mr. P-----y's* re-election would secure *Mr. L-----n*, the public Peace, and the good of the Town.

But since the last determination, in the Court of King's Bench, things wear a different aspect.—No set of men can now dictate to the Town, whom they shall elect.—It is the general wish and expectation, that *Mr. P-----y* will be down here in a few days, to assert that liberty and independency which he hath so lately obtained for the inhabitants of this Borough.—In the mean time let us rest assured, that he will not barter them away by any compromises; but that he will steadily support his friend *Mr. C-----tt*, and wait the event of his own petition,

I am,

Your real Friend,

A Freeman of Shrewsbury.

Shrewsbury, Dec. 15, 1774.

To the Gentlemen, Burgeſſes, Freemen-
Burgeſſes, and Inhabitants of the
Town of Shrewsbury.

Gentlemen,

I Had the honor of addreſſing you on
the 28th of *November*, to requeſt the
favor of your votes on the vacancy
occaſioned by the death of the late
L—d C—e, if the propoſal which
many reſpectable Gentlemen and my-
ſelf ſent to *Mr. P—y* was not ap-
proved of. He has very politely told
me this day it cannot, unleſs I would
come into terms he has now offered.
Theſe, Gentlemen, are ſuch, that I
cannot accede to, either with honor to
myſelf, or the deference I ſhall ever
pay to your good opinion. It was not
in my power to anſwer (as I am quite
unconnected with any particular party)
but for myſelf. I then told you, my
wiſh was, to be the humble means of
reſtoring harmony to a Town, for
which I ever had, and always ſhall
retain, the ſincereſt affection. Theſe,
Gentlemen and brother Burgeſſes, are
not

not the common-place expressions too often used on similar occasions, but the effusions of a heart filled with the Truest Gratitude for the favors received from you. To deserve them, shall ever be my first and only care. I therefore hope you will honor me with your early appearance and votes on the day of election ; and, should I be so happy as to be the object of your choice, to approve myself not undeserving the high Trust you shall repose in me, shall be the constant endeavour of

Your most Faithful
And obliged humble Servant,
R—d M—ll.

Shrewsbury, Dec. 17, 1774.
To the Gentlemen, Burgesses, Freemen-
Burgesses, and Inhabitants of the
Town of Shrewsbury.

IT was not my intention to have troubled you with any address at this time. Trusting to the favourable opinion with which you have honoured me, and conscious of the warmest zeal
to

to merit that good opinion by my conduct, it was my resolution to remain silent now, and to follow with the greatest deference and attention, your inclinations and wishes. But I am called upon by an address, distributed last night, by Mr. M---ll, to vindicate myself, to you and to all into whose hands it may come, from an accusation which I certainly have not deserved.

Mr. M---ll has informed you, that I very politely told him on *Thursday*, that I could not approve of the proposal which he and many respectable Gentlemen sent me, unless Mr. M---ll would come into terms which I had then offered. That these were such as he could not accede to, either with honor to himself, or the deference he should ever pay to your good opinion.

I am unwilling, Gentlemen, to enter into that sort of altercation, which is too often practised at the time of elections, and is equally disagreeable to the by-standers, and to the persons engaged. I flattered myself that this would be avoided, from the very polite
and

and good humoured declarations of Mr. M---ll, that he wished, as I did, that matters might, on this occasion, be carried on with the utmost civility on all sides. But I am now indispensably forced to assure you, in this manner, that I am incapable of proposing terms to Mr. M---ll, or to any one else, which could not be acceded to with honor, and I am too sensible of what I owe to you, to have proposed any thing which was inconsistent with the deference due to your good opinion. I trust to the attachment of my friends, that they will give me credit for this, I trust to the candor of my opponents.

Mr. M---ll did me the honor of a visit on *Tuesday*, but said he did not expect so soon, an answer to the proposal, and I agreed to acquaint him with my answer, so soon as I had an opportunity to know the sentiments of my friends, with which he seemed entirely satisfied.

On *Thursday* he did me the honor of a second visit, and made an apology
for

for calling so soon, but said, his friends were desirous of an answer to the proposal. Though I had not time to know the sentiments of many of my friends, I very readily stated to him the ideas which had occurred to such of them as I had conversed with, and I explained, with all the attention and civility I was capable of, the reasons upon which they grounded their observations upon the proposals. Mr. M—ll said he would communicate what I had mentioned, to his friends, he appeared perfectly satisfied with me, and if I am rightly informed, he declared himself to be so, after he had left me.

In the evening he did me the honor to return, and said he had mentioned the matter to a Gentleman, whom he named, who desired I might be informed, that what I had stated would not be agreed to. I took notice, that I had explained the reasons upon which the observations made upon the proposal, were founded, and that I wished to know upon what grounds these were

F objected

objected to. This Mr. M—ll did not explain. I then asked if the answer he had brought me, related to the whole or to a part, he said that one part he had not stated to his friend, viz. that which related to the Freemen. It then occurred to Mr. M—ll, that it would be proper to state in writing the whole ; but it was late, and therefore next morning I wrote to Mr. M—ll, and sent my letter to the country where he then was, acquainting him that tho' I had told him the day before, what occurred to me, upon his desiring an answer, yet I had not seen several of the Gentlemen whose sentiments I was desirous of knowing, and particularly one respectable Gentleman, whose health had detained him in the country. That I expected that Gentleman immediately in Town, and proposed, as soon as I had seen him, and some others of my friends, to send an answer in writing to the very kind proposal which Mr. M—ll had been pleased to transmit to me. I receiv'd no return to this, but Mr. M—ll's address was diffri-

distributed in the evening, and probably had been printed before my letter could reach him.

I thought it the most likely method to render accurate the facts I have stated, to communicate this paper to Mr. M---// before sending it to the press, that he might put me right, if, in any thing my recollection had failed me.

I find that Mr. M---//, without objecting to any other particulars, apprehends that I made him a specifick proposal, which I can say with confidence, it never was my intention to make, nor had I the least authority from the person principally concerned, to make it: and he also apprehends that I omitted to mention till the evening, what related to the Freeman, tho' that was the point I had always first in my mind, and which I believe I mentioned to every other Gentleman with whom I conversed.

I will not presume to set my memory, which is a bad one, against that of Mr. M---// or of any other Gentleman.

tleman. The inaccuracies which happen in conversation, are too frequent, to make me confident, with respect to what may have passed, but it seems plain from this, how very necessary it must be to transact matters of this kind by writing only.

I have not yet committed to writing my answer to the proposal, nor have I yet been able to collect the sentiments of so many of my friends as I wished, but I trust that when it is ready to be laid before you, there will be found nothing in it, or in any thing I said to Mr. M---ll, which may not be accepted with honor, or which is inconsistent with the utmost deference to your good opinion.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient and

Obliged humble Servant,

W—m P—y.

To

To the Gentlemen, Burgeffes, Freemen-
Burgeffes, and Inhabitants of the Town
of Shrewsbury.

Gentlemen,

I Now beg leave to lay before you,
the letter which was sent me to *Lon-
don*, in the name of a Meeting held at
the Town-Hall on the 28th, *November*
last, and signed by many respectable
gentlemen, together with my answer
to the propofal contained in it, which
I have now given in, after advifing with
as many of my friends as I have had an
opportunity to converse with. I sub-
mit my conduct on this, as I fhall
chearfully do upon all future occafions,
to be judged of by your candour and
impartiality.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your most Obedient and

Most humble Servant,

W---m P---y.

Copy

Copy of a letter addressed to *W----m*
P-----y, Esq. which was sent to *London*
 by Express.

Sir, *Salop, Nov. 28, 1774.*

AT a Meeting of the Gentlemen
Burgeffes and *Inhabitants* of this
 Town, it was proposed and appeared
 to be the unanimous wish of all present
 that you would do them the honor of
 representing them in the room of the
 late *L---d C---e*, and drop your petition,
 and we may venture confidently to
 assure you, that if you shall think fit,
 for the sake of restoring peace to the
 Town, to accept of this proposal, you
 will be sure to meet with no opposition
 and be received with joy by all parties.
 A line in answer to Mr. *M----ll* will ob-
 lige, Sir, your most obedient Servants.

(Signed.)

Richard M-rh-ll.	James Winn-ll.
William T-yle-r.	Thomas Har--es.
Wm. T-yle-r, junr.	Edward Har--es.
Samuel B-ny-n.	James Ma--n.
Roger Ky-aft-n.	Thomas Ey--n.
Cheney H rt.	Robert Pemb- ton.
Pryce O-en.	Joshua Blak--ay.
John Ro- ke.	To

To R——D M——LL, Esq;
Shrewsbury-Castle, Dec. 20, 1774.

SIR,

WHEN I receiv'd at *London*, by express, the letter signed by you and many other respectable Gentlemen containing an invitation, in the name of a numerous Meeting, expressed in the most obliging terms, that I should offer myself for the vacancy occasioned by the Death of Lord C—e, and withdraw my petition, I could only then return an answer, that I would take the opinion of my friends and would come to *Shrewsbury* as soon as possible for that purpose.

It immediately occurred to me, that two difficulties stood in the way of my accepting of that proposa', however much I might think myself flattered by the terms in which it was expressed, and the respectable names who concurred in it.

In the first place, if with a view to extinguish animosities, I should withdraw my petition, and no declaration was made in confirmation of the rights
of

of the *Freemen*, it might be imputed to me, as a desertion of their cause ; for tho' their rights are already confirmed by two verdicts, the last of which, having been agreed before-hand to be final, was obtained in a tryal at bar, and since approved by the highest law authority, yet it might be thought that these verdicts ought to be still further confirmed, by obtaining a determination in favor of the *Freemen* from a Committee of the *House of Commons*.

That the rights of the *Freemen* do not stand in need of such a confirmation, I will readily admit ; neither do the determinations of Committees establish the rights of voting on all future occasions, as was the case of resolutions of the House of Commons itself, by virtue of an express Act of Parliament ; but still the judgment of the Committee, it might be said, would be considered as a support of some consequence, to the two verdicts, if they were thought to require any further support.

In the second place. As Mr. C---tt had declared himself a candidate with
the

the approbation of my friends, before the proposal was sent to me, and as he had acted towards me and them in the most honourable manner, in a trying situation, during the late election, it was impossible for me, independant of the regard and affection I bear him, not to give him my support, or to agree to any proposal which might affect him, without his previous consent.

But if these two difficulties could be removed, nothing certainly would be more agreeable to me, than to contribute to the reconciliation of differences, and to come in with the general approbation of all parties.

When I came here, I endeavoured to collect the opinions of my friends, and found that every person I conversed with, including many who are connected with the Corporation, concurred in thinking, that the Freemen ought to be admitted as Burgeffes, in consequence of the two verdicts, which if done would take away the necessity of proceeding, on their account, upon the petition.

G

But

But with regard to Mr. C---tt, no proposition was mentioned, which I could state to him; though it was, indeed suggested, that by withdrawing his pretensions for the present, he would be the means of establishing good-will and unanimity, and would recommend himself to the town in general.

Upon this footing matters now stand; and therefore it is the opinion of all those friends with whom I have yet had an opportunity to converse, that the only answer I can make to the proposal sent me, is, That unless something be done to put an end to all further disputes concerning the rights of the *Free-men*, and that Mr. C---tt and his friends do consent, I cannot agree to withdraw my petition, and to offer myself for the present vacancy. This answer I presume, you will communicate to the gentlemen who composed that respectable meeting, at whose desire the invitation was sent me, and that you will inform me in what light it appears to them.

I cannot

I cannot imagine you will think, that the terms I have mentioned, are such as cannot be acceded to with honor, or consistently with the deference due to the good opinion of the Burgeſſes and Inhabitants.

Is it diſhonorable to ſubmit to two verdicts, the laſt of which was tried in the moſt ſolemn manner which the law of this country knows; approved of ſince by the higheſt law authority; and which the leading counſel of the Corporation had previously agreed in court ſhould be final, and declared he was authoriſed by the Corporation to ſay ſo? Or can it be ſeriously urged, that thoſe who after having ſerved a ſeven years Apprenticeship, or having been born in Town, do reſide and pay ſcot and lot here, ought to be excluded from all ſhare in the choice of Representatives, and that others are more fit to enjoy that high and important privilege?

Is it diſhonorable to pay attention to the merits and pretentions of Mr. C---tt, ſupported as he is, by the ge-

neral voice of the inhabitants, and distinguished by the most honorable conduct on a trying occasion?

It may be disagreeable perhaps to some persons, to acknowledge the just right of the one, or the well-founded pretensions of the other, but that it would be dishonorable, or improper, to acknowledge them, I think can hardly be maintained.

How far Mr. C---tt himself may be disposed to wave his pretensions for the present, if that should be made the only obstacle to the immediate admission of the Freemen, I will not venture to foretel, nor have I ever asked him the question. But if his most amiable and obliging disposition, and his zeal in the cause of the Freemen should induce him to take such a step, I am sure it is impossible, that the obligation should ever be forgot by the candid, generous and respectable Burgeesses and Inhabitants of this place.

I have only to add, that considering the moderation of the terms I have suggested, I am not likely to be blamed
for

for an unreasonable, or over-bearing obstinacy upon this occasion, and if rejected, I am confident, that the more reasonable part of your own friends, will see, at whose door will lie the blame, of all the future dissensions which must shake the tranquillity of this respectable Borough.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient and
most humble Servant,

W-----m P-----y.

Shrewsbury, Dec. 23, 1774.

To the *Gentlemen, Burgeesses, Freemen-
Burgeesses, and Inhabitants* of the
Town of Shrewsbury.

Gentlemen,

I Hoped not to have had occasion so soon to trouble you with another address; but Mr. P----y's to you of the 17th Instant, which was distributed on the 19th, calls on me for a reply: I therefore hope you will pardon this intrusion.

Mr. P-----y says, he hoped to avoid that sort of altercation too often practised

tified at the time of elections ; this cannot be more that Gentleman's wish than it is mine ; but can I with propriety be silent, after he has proposed, what he terms, conditions for a compromise, tho' he is pleased to say, he did not make any offer ? might it not have gone forth that I had varied from the declarations I had publickly made the 28th of *November*, in the Town-Hall, when I told you, that great as I should esteem the honour of being your Representative in Parliament, my satisfaction would be much more complete in seeing harmony and good humour re-established among you ? No, Gentlemen, I never did, nor will I ever forfeit my word to you, on this, or any other occasion.

Mr. P-----y says, he did not apprehend that he made me any absolute proposal, for that he had no authority from the Gentleman principally concerned to offer any terms. What authority he had is best known to himself ; but I give you my word and honour, that terms were offered to me for a
com-

compromise on *Thursday* the 15th Instant, and to the following effect: that the only means of procuring peace, would be, that Mr. L-----n and his friends should agree to support Mr. C----t, on a future vacancy; and in the evening, when I saw Mr. P-----y again, he then mentioned the admission of the Freemen as part of the condition, to which I never had, nor could have the least objection: to the first part of this proposition, I appeal to you, Gentlemen, if I could accede with honour to myself, or the deference I shall ever pay to your good opinion? This I am positive is the substance of the conversation I had with Mr. P-----y. I am surprized he should put such a construction as he has on this expression in my letter to you; for surely terms that were highly honourable for him to offer, might reflect dishonour on me, if I had accepted them. This is my Idea of the affair.

I as much lament the illness of the Gentleman Mr. P-----y alludes to, as any person. When I received the letter
at

at *Ensdon* on *Friday* the 16th instant; about One o'Clock, it was then too late to prevent my letter of the 15th being distributed, as I wrote it on the *Thursday* evening when I came from the *Castle*, and delivered it to the Printer about Eight o'Clock, with directions for it to be sent out early the next morning; but on enquiry I find they were not delivered till Two o'Clock in the Afternoon. I prevented the circulation of it as much as possible, by countermanding the orders for inserting it in the *Shrewsbury* Paper, and it was put in the *Birmingham* Gazette without my knowledge.

I have also received a letter from Mr. P-----y of the 20th, and which is since printed, and was delivered about the Town yesterday. This I presume is his final determination; tho' it puzzles me a little to connect the many different ideas that Gentleman seems to have conceived about this affair; it is to me quite a labyrinth; and he will pardon me in saying, that it appears
to

to be more his wish to confound his readers, than to explain his ideas.

What proposition could I state to Mr. C---t? He is a Gentleman I have a great respect for, yet he is a Candidate for your favors as well as myself; and if no compromise takes place, I have not a doubt but you will, with the utmost impartiality, give your suffrages to him you shall esteem most worthy.

It is my determined and fixed resolution to desire your support and assistance against him, or any other Gentleman upon earth, except Mr. P---y; for to no one else will I give up the very flattering prospect of success I have received from you: nor to him will I resign my pretensions to the honour I wish for, but on the principles stated in my letter of the 28th of *November*. If he does not comply with mine and the other Gentlemen's proposals sent him that Day, I shall think myself quite at liberty to take every honourable means of securing to me a continuance of the good opinion you

H

have

have been so liberally pleased to express of me.

Mr- P-----y addressed his letter to me, and afterwards published and sent it to you, as tho' it was an address to the publick and not to an individual.

He asks some questions in it, which, supposing it to be addressed to you, is highly proper, but the reverse to me. I sent this to Mr. P-----y for his perusal, and I hope you will excuse me answering any future address that may come out on this occasion.

It has been my intention, throughout the whole of this business, to deliver my sentiments to you in as plain and intelligible a manner as possible; not to flatter or couch my meaning in ambiguous terms; and to conduct myself so as to convince you that I am, with the most unfeigned regard and esteem,

Gentlemen,

Your most obliged, faithful,
and obedient Servant,

R-----d M-----ll.

Miscellaneous Pieces in Prose and Verse.

A letter from a Gentleman in Shrewsbury,

Sir, to his friend in the Country,

(Refer to page 19.)

A MIDST the transports of unbounded joy, with which our town is animated, and to which every honest heart beats time, I am doubtful whether I shall be able to give you that satisfactory account you desired, and which I promised: However, if my letter should sometimes swell beyond the bounds of narrative, I hope you will impute it to it's proper cause, viz.

A soul enraptur'd with the theme she sings.

TRUTH, you know, is eternal; as such, in all her heaven-born charms, she paid us a visit on Sunday evening last, just before midnight; but to describe her reception amongst us, is only endeavouring at impossibilities.

Soon as PULTENEY, her favorite son was declared conqueror, in that important CAUSE which rescues the RIGHTS of Mankind out of the hand

of oppression ; all the instruments of
 festivity, as if, by a sympathetic cohe-
 sion, were engaged in his service ;
 The bells, triumphant! shook the lofty
 spire,
 And thund'ring cannons streak'd the
 night with fire.

JOY! with her usual smiles, sat en-
 throned amongst the grateful multi-
 tude, and repeated acclamations spoke
 the sentiments of their hearts :—
 PULTENEY! was the theme of every
 tongue, from the grey-headed sire, to
 the lisping infant ; even females united
 in the chorus, and the very Stars
 of Heaven, sparkled with a peculiar
 lustre.

Impatient for the light of morning,
 and, anticipating the glory of the fol-
 lowing day ; the unbiaſſed ſons of *honor*
 and *integrity* ſlept but little ; what ſlum-
 bers they indulged, were gilded with
 the approbation of their own conſci-
 ences, and their dreams were ſupremely
 happy. Sorry I am to ſay, the ſituation
 of ſome was vaſtly different.

The

The morning broke ! A double tyde
of transport usher'd in the day ; the
streets were crowded ; the bells rung ;
the cannons roared ; libations were
handed about ; the victims smoak'd ;
and all was conducted with satisfaction
inexpressible !

In fine, each succeeding day has
been crowned with the same applause ;
and I question whether it will not be
observed amongst the Freemen of
Shrewsbury ; as a triumphant jubilee for
generations to come. I am, Sir,
Salop, Nov. 26, 1774. &c. &c.

TO JOHN KNIGHT, Esq; Fore-man,
and the other GENTLEMEN of the
SPECIAL JURY for the county of
Middlesex ; who, on the 19th day of
Nov. last, gave a verdict before the
Court of *King's Bench* (on a tryal of a
writ of *Mandamus*) in favour of the
Freemen of Shrewsbury.

(Refer to page 19.)

IMPRESSED, with the most lively
sensations of joy, gratitude, and eve-
ry other pleasing emotion that the
human

human mind can feel, permit me *Gentlemen*, on the behalf of my bretheren, the *Freemen*, and, I may venture to say, the generality of the *Inhabitants* of the town of *Shrewsbury*, to tender you, our most sincere and unreserved *thanks*, for your impartial, judicious, and unshaken attention to the interest of *truth*.

It is with inexpressible satisfaction we behold (in this age of *venality* and *corruption*) a select *Jury* of steady, unbiassed, constitutional *Gentlemen*; inflexibly attached to the natural *rights* of mankind, and tenacious of the honors of our glorious *magna charta*.

You have, *Gentlemen*, (to our unspeakable consolation) by your late verdict in the *Court of King's Bench*, convinced us in the most interesting manner possible, that you have hearts every way susceptible of the finest impressions as well as judgments to guide you through all the intricate mazes of error, and prejudice; till you bask in the sun-shine of unclouded *truth*,

If the captive, just rescued from the chains of slavery; if the helpless orphan,
illegally

illegally debared of his birthright ; if, a considerable body of people, *groaning for a long series of years*, under the hand of *oppression* : I say if these, ever directed the eye of gratitude towards the object of their deliverance, and felt their bosoms glow with affection for the redresser of their wrongs ; such, *Gentlemen*, are the sensations which we feel at the very mention of your respectable *names* ;----*Names* ! which will never be forgotten amongst us, but perpetuated in the hearts of our children to succeeding generations.

And now *Gentlemen* ! to those exquisite pleasures, which naturally result from the consciousness of an upright conduct, may every other blessing be added in a rich abundance ; may the smiles of heaven gild your passage thro' life ; and, may *liberty* in its fullest extent stand ready to crown your latest hour.

I am, (with all gratitude, respect, and esteem,

Gentlemen,

Your devoted humble servant,

Salop,
Dec. 1774.

The voice of Thousands.

On

On the second Salopian Canvass, and proposed Compromise.

(Refer to page 45, &c.)

A Letter to a Friend.



“ Is it peace, Jehu? What peace, so long as the whoredoms of thy mother Jezebel, and her witchcrafts are so many?”

Dear Sir,

IN these Parliamentary times, even persons who are not qualified to vote can scarcely avoid mixing in the political brangle. A person cannot long stand neuter. A Gallio, who careth for none of these things, will not be allow'd to be a very honorable Salopian.

How far it may be right to *halt between two opinions*, seems to depend upon the length of time a man has had to weigh them both; but after examination, he must follow the one or the other. For instance, he cannot *serve C----tt* and *M-----ll*, neither by vote nor vow.

But you will perhaps demand, whether a third person might not propose a *compromise*, between two other persons canvassing for a chair? Suppose I
answer

answer yes; and beg leave to add, if the terms are such as neither of the Candidates will agree to, in that case, if the officious mediator, should endeavor to possess the Chair himself, I should suppose a by-stander would suspect he had *that sinister end in view.*

" *I have not a doubt* (says that mediator " to the Gentlemen, &c.) *but you will* " *with the utmost impartiality give your* " *suffrages to HIM you shall esteem* " *most worthy,"* Mr. C-rb-t or myself, or Mr. P--lt-n-y.

You will perceive by the last lines, I have been reading, *An Address to the Gentlemen - Burgessees, Freemen - Burgessees, and Inhabitants of the Town of Shrewsbury.* Signed R--- -d M----ll, and dated at Shrewsbury, Dec. 23, 1774.

The writer seems to be a personage of great importance, and to wonder he should have " had *occasion*, (as he expresses it,) to trouble the Town " with another address so soon." But that being the case, he steps forth to justify his own proceedings, and to
 I. defame

defame those of Mr. P-----y, as we shall see in the sequel.

He does indeed declare against uncandid disputation; telling his readers that “ Mr. P-----y hoped to avoid that “ sort of altercation too often practised “ at the time of Elections.” Mr. P-----y’s expression is; “ I am unwilling, Gentlemen, to enter into that “ sort of altercation---which is---equally disagreeable to the by-standers “ and to the persons engaged; I “ flattered myself this would be avoided.” Whether Mr. P-----y had *sufficient* ground for this hope does not appear. But not to dispute about words, Mr. M-----ll adopts the maxim. Very well. So far by way of preliminary. But before we proceed, let us go back to take a clearer view.

Mr. P-----y, L--d C---e, and Mr. L-----n, were the Candidates. The Mayor returned the two latter, Mr. P-----y complains, and argues that some legal votes for him were *rejected*, and some illegal ones for Mr. L-----n *admitted*, and petitions the House of Commons

Commons for redress. In the interim *L—d C—e* dies, and *Mr. C—tt*, and *Mr. M—ll*, declare themselves Candidates for that vacant seat. After canvassing, *Mr. P—y* being in London, is by *Mr. M—ll* and some other Gentlemen, desired to withdraw his petition, and stand a Candidate for the same vacant seat.

Upon this, *Mr. P—y* and *Mr. M—ll* had some interviews, and some papers have been printed, by which it appears, they did not rightly understand each other. But *Mr. M—ll* declares, that “ he should be glad to “ see harmony and good humour re- “ established.” This is very fairly said, and is what *Mr. P—* and every good man would be glad to see. But *Mr. P—y* does not agree with *Mr. M—ll*, in the MEANS to re-establish this desirable peace, for want of which many have been grieved more than forty years long.

Mr. M—ll says, *Mr. P—y*’s terms were, “ that *Mr. L—n* and his “ friends, should agree to support *Mr.*

“ *C—tt* on a future vacancy; and
 “ that the Freeman should be ad-
 “ mitted.”

These terms, however, were never designed to be offered, much less agreed to by Mr. *P—y*, but with Mr. *C—tt*'s consent.

After some fencing we are now come a little nearer. Mr. *M—ll* for himself, has not the least objection to admitting the Freeman, but cannot with honour *accede* to support Mr. *C—tt* in future, nor *will* his friends agree to admit the Freeman. We shall see whether their *will* can be altered, mean time, where is the honour of proposing conditions in behalf of a party, who refuse to admit the Freeman? Mr. *M—ll* will not promise to support Mr. *C—tt* in future, which he says was one condition; his friends will not admit the Freeman which was the other condition; so *conditions* and *terms*, farewell.

There are some plaguy questions in the close of Mr. *P—y*'s letter, Dec. 20, which Mr. *M—ll* pretends it does not
 concern

concern him to answer. P—y “ asks
 “ some questions in his letter to me
 “ says M—ll, which supposing it to
 be addressed to you *is* highly proper,
 but the reverse to me. Suppose one
 should ask why? and again ask was not
 Mr. M—ll the ambassador of his
 friends? perhaps he will say he was not
 their *plenipo*.

In Mr. M—ll's fifth paragraph,
 speaking of Mr. P—y's letter of the
 20th Dec. he has these words; “ It
 “ puzzles me a little to connect the
 “ many different ideas that Gentleman
 “ seems to have conceived about this
 “ affair; it is to me quite a labrynth;
 “ and he will pardon me in saying
 “ that it appears to be more his wish
 “ to confound his readers, than to
 “ explain his ideas.” Some men may
 be *puzzled* with what is plain to others,
 and that may be a *labrynth* to one Gen-
 tleman, which is not so to another.

The sum is, P—y's point in view
 is to secure the rights of the Freemen,
 to be grateful to, and to deal ho-
 nourably

nourably with Mr. C---tt as with all mankind.

Mr. M---ll's point in view seems to be the establishing of Mr. L-----n and himself.

Gentlemen, Burgeſſes, Freemen-Burgeſſes, and Inhabitants, of the Town of Shrewsbury, the choice is in you.

Mr. P—y's questions seem to be the *puzzle* and the *labrynth*. Let us review them and see.

The Questions are,

I. Is it dishonorable to submit to two verdicts?

II. Is it dishonorable to pay attention to the merits and pretensions of Mr. C---tt?

A labrynth this, that needs not *Ariadne's* clue! this brings to mind some lines of our old English poet *Herbert*, if I remember right,

“ Love God and love your neighbour,

“ Do as you would be done unto ;

“ O *dark* instructions e'en as dark
as *day*,

“ Who can this Gordian-knot undo ?

I know

I know not whether I quote the honest poet verbatim, but if in this or in any other particular, your friend has mis-apprehended any thing, you will, he hopes, set him right when you see him. He is quite a stranger to the four *concurrents*, but hopes you believe him,

Sir,

Your most humble Servant,

Jan. 2d 1775.

The

The *Genius* of *Severn*, addressing the Freemen of
Shrewsbury, on the approaching Election :

An O D E.

(Refer to page 7.)

SLOW rising from his coral flood,
Where *Severn* rolls along :
The genius of the river flood,
And thus attun'd his song.

“ Ye *free-born* souls who prize your **RIGHT**,
Beyond what transient *interest* brings :
Attend my voice—for what I write,
Is drawn from *honor's* sacred springs.

Behold the **DAY**—th' important **DAY** !
That stamps your *glory* or your *shame*,
Stands pointing with a golden ray,
At *truth*, at *liberty*, and *fame* !

Concenter'd in a P —y's heart,
Those glowing virtues shine confess'd,
And *gratitude* assumes her part,
To fix it in the *gen'rous* breast.

And shall her Godlike pow'r be lost,
On you the subjects of her reign ?
I hate those *reptiles* round my coast,
Who barter *principle* for gain !

Or shall one soul, ignobly dare,
(*Like Esau once*) his rights to sell,
For *Turtle-Soup*—*Ragoo's* of *Hare*,
Or all the *Fricassées* of — ?

No, Britons no ! assert your cause,
 And like your ancient Fathers stand.—
 When brave *Charaëlacus* gave laws,
 And shone the glory of your land.”

So spoke the Genius of the floods,
 And sunk beneath the tide :
 So echo'd back the neighb'ring woods !
 And all the rocks reply'd !

A Free-Man's Address to his Brethren.

A New S O N G ;

For the Morning of the Election.

(Refer to page 7.)

COME on my brave boys, to a man let's be
 steady,
 For Gratitude calls us—and P——Y stands ready,
 The morning's just risen, that shall prove us sincere,
 And the evening shall triumph with bumpers of
 beer.

For P——Y's the Man, let 'em do what they can,
 For he always is ready,
 Steady boys steady,
 Your Rights and your Liberties all to defend.

But whilst I am speaking here come's my dame
 Honor,
 Who swears that our Faith is all posted upon her,
 And that she will lead us, before the day's settled,
 To prove, that true FREE-MEN are always high
 mett'd. For P——Y's the Man, &c.
 K And,

And, to strengthen her cause, let us join heart
and hand,
While we sweat those rich r——s, who mono-
polize land,
For whilst we are staunch—though some people
may grumble
I think in the end we shall give them a tumble.
For P——Y's the Man, &c.

(Like *Charadriacus* once,) let us stick to our point,
'Till oppression, and bribery, shall shake in each
joint :
And liberty rising, with glory transcendent !
Shall prove—true *Salopians* are all independent,
For P——Y's the Man, &c.

Perhaps some false meteors, may tempt you to
blunder,
And lead you astray after *East-India* plunder :
But, sure you'll ne'er give up your RIGHTS for a
bubble !
Or leave the old CAUSE, which hath cost so much
trouble ?
For P——Y's the Man, &c.

NO—GRATITUDE calls—and fair HONOR invites
you,
'Tis wisdom, 'tis justice, 'tis P——Y that rights
you :
And he that refuses to dance to the tune—O,
May he drink of cold water from this time 'till
June—O.
For P——Y's the Man, &c.

A Pro

A PROPHEPIC EXORDIUM, &c.

(Refer'd to page 19.)

IF fam'd Demosthenes had power to bind
 In elocution's chains, the captive mind ;
 To inspire the Grecians with a godlike flame,
 And stamp a glory on his country's name :
 With joy ! the Muse would hail Britannia's state,
 Who boasts in P——y ! all that's good and great !
 Her eye, prophetic, darts to distant things,
 When list'ning senates—and applauding kings,
 (No more opposing) shall his pow'rs revere,
 And, spite of malice ! bend the raptur'd ear !
 When the low arts, inferior courts have try'd,
 To stab his int'rest, set his worth aside,
 Shall own their errors with ingenuous shame ;
 And yield to P——y, what his virtues claim.

FREEDOM confirm'd, LIBERTY restor'd,

A New S O N G.

THE cause was heard, the verdict given,
 The mandate ratify'd in heaven
 This day oppression bleeds.
 The sun arose to greet the morn,
 But active fame the news had born,
 Out tript Apollo's steeds.

Fatigued he took his usual nap
 But slept too long in Thetis lap,
 Forgot to rise so soon.
 But fame who never clos'd her eyes
 Rose when the sun just quit the skies,
 And travel'd with the moon.

Not long she posted e'er she view'd,
 The Cattle-mound, superb it stood,
 O'er Severns graceful plains.
 Well pleas'd Sabrina stood confest'd
 To see return'd her banish'd guest,
 And *Freedom* without chains.

Whence this, says she, your secret flight
 Why is it thus you traverse night,
 Are good the deeds you bear?
 Or does some bale born villain thrive
 Who courts a name which may survive,
 And flourish in his heir.

What! know you not the glorious cause,
 That flaps your liberties and laws,
 Tis P——y's name I bear.
 Twice hath corruption felt his rod
 A third time waits his vengeful nod,
 Impendant hangs in air.

But see the graceful C——tt comes,
 Strike up the sprightly fife and drums,
 Swell the soft-speaking flute;
 See envy shrinks beneath her cell
 With all the vicegerents of hell,
 And slander dares be mute.

No more shall vile oppression scourge,
 No more corruption dare to urge,
 The justice of bye-laws.
 P——y and C——tt now shall guard
 Our rights restor'd and heaven's reward,
 Shall speak its just applause.

A New

A New S O N G. Tune ATTIC FIRE.

W H E N P — Y first, in freedom's cause,
 Stept forth to guard our injur'd laws,
 Pale malice rag'd and swore: *

The C — — n flood in tears,
 And base-born souls confess'd their fears,
 To see their reign was o'er.

But when the morn', auspicious rose,
 That triumph'd o'er fair freedom's foes,
 And crown'd Salopia's fame:
 Their spirits sunk, and dy'd away,
 They fought the night, and thund' the Day,
 That pointed at their sh—e.

Not so, the brave! who nobly stood,
 For P — Y! and the common good;
 These, swell the raptur'd strain!
 Old Severn hears the grateful sound,
 And bab'ling echo! tells it round,
 To all the list'ning plains.

* The following letter was received by a Burgefs of
 Shrewsbury, October the 5th. 1774.

“ Secretary's-office, Chelsea College.

October 3, 1774.

“ Mr. Crawford,

“ I am commanded to inform you, that it is expected
 “ that all the friends of Government will give their
 “ votes for his Majesty's interest; and as you are free
 “ of Shrewsbury, you will therefore be pleased to vote
 “ for Lord Clive and Mr. Leighton, at the ensuing
 “ election. When you have given your vote, be so good
 “ as to signify the same to me; being, Sir,

“ Your very humble servant,

“ G. RUSSEL, Assistant Secretary.”

THE FEMALE CANDIDATES' RACE.

A New S O N G.

THE Muse, good-humour'd, fain would change,
 Her usual vein of satire,
 And for a while had rather range
 Thro' fields of softer nature:
 All keener phrases then avoid,
 Tho' she her chiefest trade is,
 But as with such you have been cloy'd,
 We'll now attack the *Ladies*!

The news arriv'd of Plassey's end,
 In alley, lane, and street, fir,
 'Twas droll to see the foe and friend,
 And every party meet, fir.
 But what was curious, strange, and great,
 'Twere pity to let slip, fir,
 Two lovely *fair ones* run a heat,
 With so much jockeyship, fir.

A vacant seat, in parliament,
 Each for its own dear spoufy,
 Wou'd fain secure, 'twas their intent,
 As well you may suppose ye;
 Such was the plate—they started fair,
 Upon this great occasion,
 Sweet PALLAS rode fair *Freedom's* mare,
 DIANA *C-rp-r-ti-n*.

The mare was high and truly blood,
 Old LIBERTY her dam fir,
 Just fresh led out from P—Y's stud,
 With sparkling eye she came fir,

The

The horse resolv'd to do his best,
 And try one strenuous effort;
 Being well convinc'd it was the last,
 He evermore shou'd have for't.

At first the odds were doubtful quite,
 On *C-r-p-r-ti-n's* rider,
 The fair DIANA, gay and bright,
 Had many friends beside her:
 Possess'd of ev'ry winning grace,
 And all that claims assistance,
 And had not she have rode the race,
None else had fav'd their distance.

But in the nature of this plate,
 All trick and art's allow'd fir,
 The crossing, jostling, was so great,
 Thro' all the gazing crowd, fir;
 None cou'd have said which rode the best,
 Each did so hard endeav'r it;
 Yet this on all sides was confess'd,
 Fair FREEDOM was the fav'rite.

Exclamation of an enraptur'd FREEMAN.

FREEMEN in gen'ral, and each honest heart,
 That ardent glows; in honor's sacred cause,
 With gratulations, hail! their *common* FRIEND:
 A second victory, crowns the God-like Man!
 And stamps that sanction! heav'n, and nature sign'd.

Tho' midnight brought the gladsome tidings down,
 And darkness veil'd the C——'s sh—c!
 The fire of gratitude illum'd our souls,
 (Repose was banish'd) and the night was joy!

Strait,

Strait, from the lofty spires, the streamers wav'd,
 And thund'ring cannons, shook the castle walls,
 (Terror was hush'd) and triumph reign'd supreme !
 —The signal giv'n—the multitude with shouts,
 Were gather'd soon—and found their rights
 confirm'd :

Heavens! what a transport seiz'd the mingled throng :
Loud acclamations pierc'd the distant hills !

And nature, vocal, echo'd back the sound ;

The village bells, in sympathetic peal,

Hail'd the glad night!—and all was festal joy!

Save, the dull chaos of ignoble souls ;

These, shrunk to nothing!—while expanded wide;

Our hearts and tongues—with one unbounded swell !

To P——Y ! gave the tribute, virtue claims,

—Claims ev'ry way!—for LIBERTY at stake,—

—RIGHTS—half a century, in corruption hid,

(Tho' labor'd after with incessant toil,)

His hand hath rescu'd,—“Hell gives up her dead”—

Malice shrinks back,—while honor keeps the field,

And wisdom smiles at all the sons of fraud.

Nor be the COURT forgot, where JUSTICE sat,

(Inferior only to the feat of Jove)

And—heav'n directed! gave the stamp of fate:

—“ Disgorged now, the Python lies expos'd,

And, all Apollo rises in our choice.

Unravel'd thus, the myst'ry dies away :

And the great statesman breaks upon our view.

'Tis time for distant plants to bless our soil,

When half our own are canker'd at the root.

Hence let mankind, at least, the few who tread

In honor's path, and deal in honest fame,

Judge of our conduct. Soon, a race unborn,

FROM

From party rage, and prejudices free,
 Shall sound our praises—but supremely thine
 O P——Y! rais'd to stem corruption's tide,
 And be the PILOT of our precious freight.

Thus, as the day revolves, in annual turns,
 Thy name shall live! and mirth and joy abound.
 “ Our fetters broke, our liberties restor'd”
 Shall swell the burthen of the grateful song,
 And heav'n approving, bid the CHARTER stand.

The Glorious
 NINETEENTH OF NOVEMBER, 1774:
 A P O E M.

O F all the days throughout the year,
 Which Almanacks remember,
 There is not one that can compare,
 T' the *Nineteenth of November*.

Fair *Freedom* long had groan'd in chains,
Corruption rul'd the nation;
 To crush us all she took great pains,
 With her big *Corp-r-tion*.

But on the glorious day I sing,
 God blest our heav'n-born *Hero*;
 He gave her such a curst *STING*,
 She look'd as black as *Nero*.

And if 'tis true that's told by fame,
 (And that you well may think, fir,)
 Her bowels burst—and out there came,
 A most confounded stink, fir.

L

Nor

Nor wou'd you ever stand amaz'd,
 Unless you were besotten !
 Each member greatly was diseas'd,
 And all the carcass rotten.

But leaving such a dirty theme,
 To those who in it wallow,
 My muse shall start such noble game,
 That all true hearts will follow.

Then first to P——Y fill the glass,
 Each honest Freeman's boast,
 And he that flinches is an ass,
 And never learnt the toast.

Fair *Freedom* is the toast we give,
 In spite of all our Foes—
 This day beholds the goddess live,
 Fresh blooming as the rose.

For her, we'll cull a nosegay,
 From honor's sacred mount,
 For sure the joys of this day,
 No mortal can recount.

Our wives look gay and blooming,
 Our children lisp their pleasure,
 Their little eyes, presuming !
 Look tow' rds their future treasure.

To Madam L——R next my boys,
 Her worth is past expressing !
 May Heav'n prolong her later days,
 And crown them with a blessing.

Just

Just as the sun declining,
Sends forth a glorious ray :
So she, tho' life resigning ;
Look'd chearful all the day.

But C——T young and blooming,
Next claims a jovial toast ;
Who, Plassey's place resum'g,
Shall strengthen *Freedom's* host.

Justice shall triumph in the day,
And malice stand detected,
The *Corp*——n die away,
And v-lla-ns be dissected ;

A thousand more I might relate,
And deeds for ever glorious :
P——Y shall cure the r-tt-n state,
And honor be victorious.

On the proposed *Coalition* after the Success of the
Mandamus - Cause.

THE TWO KINGS: A FABLE.
From the HOLY BIBLE.

A Syrian trusting in his might, *
Challeng'd an *Hebrew* to the fight,
And on his armour ty'd :
The *Hebrew* trusting in his cause,
Under the sanction of the laws,
The boasting foe defy'd.

* I. *Kings*, Chapter xx.

The battle lost, the *Syrian* who
 Had made so little of his foe,
 Insulting him with scorn :
Benhadad nam'd, oblig'd to fly,
 And scatter'd from his company,
 Secur'd himself next morn'.

Another Year renews the war,
Ben' to the plains conducts his car,
 One hundred thousand slain :
 The *Hebrew* victory compleat,
 But yet some *Syrians* did retreat,
 In sorrow to complain.

Now, how King *Ahab*, e'er cou'd dream,
Benhadad wicked to extreme,
 Would ever honest prove :
 How this could be, seems mighty odd,—
 —But *Ahab's* heart estrang'd from God,
 Irregular did move.

M O R A L.

A Prophet soon convinc'd the King,
 That he had erred in this thing,
 And acted much amiss :
Let this a warning be to those,
Who know the malice of their foes.
 To shun the JUDAS KISS.

Yet when repentance is sincere,
 Atonement made by bitter tear,
 Th' offence may be pass'd o'er;

But

But let the C-*h*--*l*'s sorrow show,
His bitter tears *spontaneous* flow,
And let him err no more.

Let him submit in the next *cause*,
To the *decision of the laws*,
Not kick against the goad;
But, like a manag'd ox well broke,
Submit his neck unto the yoke,
And labor in the road.

THE RESTY TEAM.

A sort of a FABLE.

A Resty Horse that won't submit,
Nor guided be, by gentle bit,
But flounces, kicks,—will not be rul'd,
Must go to *Perry's* to be school'd.
That skilful master will put on,
Good spurs. Perhaps with cavesson,
With whip in hand he'll mount his back,
And lick him till he cries, *good lack*
I will be brought into the track.
The master then, will coax the steed,
No more will cause his sides to bleed.

Perry to mend *one* horse may scheme,
But who can cure a resty *team*?
Alas!—they'll perish in some stream.

An

An EPIGRAM.

BRETH'REN, said —, we should begin,
To think of taking P——y in.

*A dang'rous man ! A dang'rous man !
He'll gain his point do all we can.*

No, said the rest, let's cast about,
And try our best to keep him out.

M O L L Y and D O L L Y.

An EPIGRAM.

M.

MOLL said to Doll, I'll tell you what,
I do not love your *plad-clad* cat.

D.

I guess your enmity to cats,
Is cause they kill your *chequer'd* rats.



THE END.

Advertisement.

AT the request of a great number of the subscribers to this work, the editor is induced to publish it before the Election for a Representative in the room of the late LORD CLIVE; on account of which an Appendix to this Volume will be printed immediately after it is known who is to succeed his Lordship: which will contain every material piece both in prose and verse, that shall make its appearance on this subject during the contest, together with many originals, if sufficient encouragement is given.

The Price will be SIX-PENCE.

